

IN THE CLAIMS

- 5 1. A simple network management protocol (SNMP) network
power control system, comprising:
- a host system with a SNMP network manager and
providing for a TCP/IP communication connection and able to
issue GET and SET commands;
- 10 a plurality of intelligent power modules (IPM's)
connected to an uninterruptable power supply (UPS) and
providing at least one of power-on sensing, load sensing and
power cycling on/off, and further including a "tickle" signal
output that responds to a first SET command issued by a
15 system administrator and the host system;
- a plurality of network appliances connected to
receive operating power from a corresponding one of said IPMs
such that each IPM may cycle operating power on/off in
response to a second SET command issued by a system
20 administrator and the host system; and
- a power manager with a SNMP agent connected to said
TCP/IP communication connection and able to individually
control each IPM according to receipt of said GET and SET
commands;
- 25 wherein a user may confirm that a particular
intelligent power module will respond to a command to shut-
off power with said first SET command before said second SET
command is issued to actually shut off operating power to a
particular one of the network appliances.
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2. The power control system of claim 1, wherein:
each of the plurality of IPMs includes a
microprocessor that has a first output port to issue said
"tickle" signal and a second output port to control said
5 operating power to an associated network appliance.

3. The power control system of claim 2, wherein:
said "tickle" signal is a dry-contact relay output
signal that controls the logic status of a serial interface
10 included in said associated network appliance.

4. The power control system of claim 2, wherein:
said "tickle" signal is tested while said
associated network appliance is in a normal operating mode by
15 issuing said first SET command.

5. The power control system of claim 2, wherein:
said second SET command is issued when said
associated network appliance is in an abnormal operating mode
20 and cannot respond to said "tickle" signal.